

National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) with strands in Community, and Hospital

Level 5

Credits 131 or 139

This qualification has been **reviewed**. The last date to meet the requirements is 31 December 2017.

*Version 7 of this qualification was republished to change the status of the qualification to **expiring**.*

Transition Arrangements

This qualification has been reviewed and replaced by the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) [Ref: 1889].

People wishing to complete the requirements of the replaced qualification, must do so by 31 December 2017.

For detailed information see [Review Summaries](#) on the NZQA website.

It is intended that no existing candidate will be disadvantaged by this transition. However, if any candidate feels that they have been disadvantaged, they can appeal to the Pharmacy ITO, who will consider appeals on a case-by-case basis.

NZQF National Qualification Registration Information

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	January 1998	December 2003
Revision	2	May 1998	December 2003
Review	3	January 2001	December 2006
Revision	4	April 2005	December 2012
Review	5	December 2007	Withdrawn
Revision	6	April 2008	December 2009
Review	7	December 2008	December 2017
Republished	7	November 2012	December 2017
Republished	7	April 2015	December 2017

Standard Setting Body

Pharmacy Industry Training Organisation
PO Box 11640
Manners Street
Wellington 6142

Telephone 04 802 0030
Email p.society@psnz.org.nz

Reviewed

National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) with strands in Community, and Hospital

Level	5
Credits	131 or 139

Purpose

This qualification recognises people who have the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to work as a Pharmacy Technician. The qualification satisfies legislative requirements for working as a pharmacy technician.

The holder is able to dispense medicines under the guidance and supervision of a pharmacist. The qualification has some standards in common with the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Assistant) (Level 3) [Ref: 0469], but it is not a prerequisite for this qualification.

The target group is people employed in a pharmacy or interested in having a career as such. As some of the unit standards require assessment in a pharmacy, under the Medicines Regulations 1984, the candidate will need to be employed in a pharmacy at some stage in order to complete the qualification.

The qualification consists of a core set of unit standards, an elective and one of two strands of additional unit standards. The core set covers knowledge and skills in: safety, hazardous substance handling, and first aid; applying legislation, codes, and standards; compounding and processing, making conversions, and performing calculations; working professionally; providing written and oral advice; providing advice on use of dispensed medicines; stock management; dose forms and accessories; and knowledge of the human body and the pharmacology for a wide range of body systems. The elective section consists of unit standards related to different areas of pharmacy which candidates can select depending on their specific job roles.

The strand chosen by the candidate will depend on whether the candidate is employed in a hospital or community pharmacy.

Special Notes

Entry requirements

Pharmacy Services standards require proficient communication skills. People entering programmes of education and training leading to the award of this qualification must demonstrate the capacity to understand requirements and instructions, and communicate to the required industry level. This might be evidenced by:

- Level 3 credits from the subfields of Communication Skills or English, or demonstration of equivalent knowledge and skills;

- For those for whom English is not their first language, English language requirements for Pharmacists as specified by the Pharmacy Council of NZ must be met – see <http://www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz> under General Registration Information, English Language Requirements.

Compulsory level 4 standard 23682, *Make conversions and perform calculations for compounding and dispensing as a pharmacy technician* is mathematically demanding. Candidates for this qualification must demonstrate the ability to carry out weight and volume conversions and calculations involving ratios and percentages, perform decimal rounding, and calculate quantities and dosages accurately and consistently.

Candidates are required to hold a comprehensive first aid certificate that meets the requirements of standards 6400, *manage first aid in emergency situations*, 6401, *Provide first aid*, and 6402, *Provide resuscitation level 2*.

Credit Range

	Compulsory	Elective	Community Strand	Hospital Strand
Level 2 credits	2	-	-	-
Level 3 credits	10	-	15	-
Level 4 credits	19	-		3
Level 5 credits	83	0-10	-	4
Minimum totals	114	10	15	7
Qualification total with strand			139	131

Requirements for Award of Qualification

Award of NQF Qualifications

Credit gained for a standard may be used only once to meet the requirements of this qualification.

Unit standards and achievement standards that are equivalent in outcome are mutually exclusive for the purpose of award. The table of mutually exclusive standards is provided in section 7 of the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) *Rules and Procedures* publications available at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/acrp/index.html>.

Reviewed standards that continue to recognise the same overall outcome are registered as new versions and retain their identification number (ID). Any version of a standard with the same ID may be used to meet qualification requirements that list the ID and/or that specify the past or current classification of the standard.

Summary of Requirements

- Compulsory standards
- Elective – A minimum of 10 credits as specified

One of the following strands is required

- Community Strand
- Hospital Strand

Detailed Requirements

Compulsory

The following standards are required

Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Services

ID	Title	Level	Credit
9642	Apply legislation, codes, and standards to the supply of products and services as a pharmacy technician	4	5
9647	Compound non-aseptic pharmaceutical products under the supervision of a pharmacist	5	8
9649	Dispense prescriptions and pharmaceutical orders under supervision	5	20
9651	Apply procedures for handling hazardous substances as a pharmacy technician	3	2
23657	Provide advice on the use of dispensed medicines as a pharmacy technician	5	3
23658	Demonstrate knowledge of pharmaceutical dose forms and accessories	4	4
23669	Demonstrate knowledge of pathogens, infections, and anti-infective therapy	5	6
23672	Demonstrate knowledge, as a pharmacy technician, of drug dosing, action, adverse effects, and misuse and dependence	4	5
23673	Demonstrate knowledge of human nutrition and nutritional states as a pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician	2	2
23675	Provide written and oral advice as a pharmacy technician	3	3
23676	Manage stock within a pharmacy as a pharmacy technician	4	2
23681	Demonstrate professionalism as a pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician	3	5
23682	Make conversions and perform calculations for compounding and dispensing as a pharmacy technician	4	3
25261	Demonstrate knowledge of human nervous and endocrine systems and medicines used in their treatment	5	10
25262	Demonstrate knowledge of human cardiovascular and respiratory systems and medicines used in their treatment	5	10
25263	Demonstrate knowledge of human digestive, reproductive, and urinary systems and medicines used in their treatment	5	9
25264	Demonstrate knowledge of human musculoskeletal, integumentary systems, eye and ear and medicines used in their treatment	5	9

ID	Title	Level	Credit
25265	Demonstrate knowledge of human immune system and malignant disease and medicines used in their treatment	5	8

Elective

A minimum of 10 credits

Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Services

Field	Subfield	Domain
Health	Pharmacy	Pharmacy Services

Community Strand

The following standard is required

Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Services

ID	Title	Level	Credit
9643	Advise pharmacy clients on treatment of minor health disorders	3	15

Hospital Strand

The following standards are required

Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Services

ID	Title	Level	Credit
23677	Demonstrate knowledge of, and carry out, ward medicine management	5	4
23678	Demonstrate knowledge of, and apply procedures for, repacking as a pharmacy technician	4	3

Transition Arrangements

This qualification contains standards that have been used as substitute for earlier standards. For the purposes of this qualification, people who have gained credit for the expiring standards are exempt from the requirement to gain credit for the replacement standards – see table below.

Credit for	Exempt from
9648	23654, 23655
9652	23657
23659, 23665	25261
23660, 23663	25262
23661, 23667, 23668	25263

Credit for	Exempt from
23662, 23664, 23666	25264
23670, 23671	25265

Previous versions of the qualification

Version 7 was issued following a review of the standards in this qualification and was republished twice to make changes relating to its expiry following the Targeted Review of Qualifications.

Changes to structure and content from version 6 to version 7 included: standards 6400, 6401 and 6402 moved to the special notes; standards 497 and 23656 removed from the compulsory section; standards, 23659, 23660, 23661, 23662, 23663, 23664, 23665, 23666, 23667, 23668, 23670 and 23671 substituted with standards 25261, 25262, 25263, 25264, and 25265 in the compulsory section; and credits of standards 23658 and 23669 amended following revision.

Version 6 was issued following a revision. Changes included: the credit table was corrected, the elective section in each strand was removed, and a core elective section was created.

Version 5 was issued following a review. Changes included: the title was modified, the credit range was reduced, special notes were added, standards were removed from the core compulsory section, standards were added to the core compulsory section, a standard was removed and standards were added to the Hospital strand, an elective section was added to the Hospital strand, standards were removed and a standard was added to the Community strand, an elective section was added to the Community strand, and the certification section was updated.

Version 4 was issued following a revision. Changes included: certification details were updated, and credits were adjusted in response to the increase in credit value for standard 525.

Version 3 was issued following a review. Standards 56, 58, 62, 2781, 3501, and 9694 were removed and standard 6401 was added to the qualification.

Version 2 was issued to reflect the Communications Skills, Core Generic, and Service Sector unit standard reviews.

Version 1 replaced the Pharmacy Technician Certificate administered by the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand. Transition arrangements for that qualification and the Pharmacy Assistant Diploma administered by the Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand, which was replaced by the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Assistant) (Level 3) [Ref: 0469], have expired.

Other standard setting bodies whose standards are included in the qualification

None.

Certification

The certificate will display the logos of NZQA, the Pharmacy Industry Training Organisation and the organisation that has been granted consent to assess against standards that meet the requirements of the qualification (accredited).

Classification

This qualification is classified according to the classification system listed on the Directory of Assessment Standards (DAS) and the New Zealand Standard Classification of Education (NZSCED) system as specified below.

DAS Classification		NZSCED	
Code	Description	Code	Description
373	Health > Pharmacy	060501	Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy

Quality Management Systems

Providers and Industry Training Organisations must be granted consent to assess by a recognised Quality Assurance Body before they can register credits from assessment against standards. Organisation with consent to assess and Industry Training Organisations assessing against standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards. Consent to assess requirements and the moderation system are outlined in the associated Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) for each standard.